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• Attorney Docket No.: JYL9602E

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Jung, et al.

Serial No.: 09/872,071

Filed: June 1, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
MEASURING COLOR OF TEETH

Examiner: Lewis, R.

Art Unit: 3732

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please examine the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claim 1 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims.

2. A method of determining the optical characteristics of a dental object with an integrated system including a camera and a spectrophotometer, comprising the steps of:
- generating an image of the dental object with the camera of the integrated system;
- software processing the image of the dental object to determine a plurality of regions of the dental object that have different optical characteristics; and
- generating optical characteristics data indicative of the optical characteristics of the dental object in one or more of the plurality of regions with the spectrophotometer of the integrated system.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the method further comprises the step of calibrating the spectrophotometer by taking a measurement of a calibration standard.